Valuation of BLACO shares

3090. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether SBI Capital Markets Limited was appointed as valuer for valuation of 49 per cent equity shares of Government in BALCO for the purpose of disinvestments;

(b) whether SBI Capital Market Limited in turn had assigned the job of valuation to M/s Dalai Mott MacDonald, Mumbai;

(c) whether there is a case of conflict of interest of this agency in valuing the shares as they are also engaged in valuation job for captive power plant and smelter of BALCO; and

(d) if so, the reason for engaging this agency by SBI Caps?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) SBI Capital Markets Limited (SBI Caps) were appointed as Independent Valuer on 26.12.2005 to determine the fair value of the relevant shares of BALCO, held by Government of India.

(b) SBI Caps have indicated that for one component of valuation, *i.e.* for the work of technology evaluation and fixed asset valuation of BALCO, they had engaged M/s Dalai Mott MacDonald.

(c) and (d) SBI Caps who were asked to clarify whether there was any conflict of interest on the part of M/s Dalai Mott MacDonald have clarified that M/s Dalai Mott MacDonald were engaged as Lender's Engineers on behalf of ABN Amro Bank for BALCO's expansion project at Korba, Chattisgarh and there was no privity of contract between M/s Dalai Mott MacDonald and BALCO.

Iron-ore reserves in Chhattisgarh

†3091. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of known reserves of iron-ore in Chhattisgarh;

(b) the quantum of this reserve for which mining concession is provided

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.